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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, we press on with renewed hope for the debate over crucial issues before us. We know that if we trust You and proceed with honest exchange and civility, You will help us succeed together.

Make us so secure in Your love that our egos will not get in the way; grant us Your power, so we will not need to manipulate in a power struggle; free us from secondary loyalties, so we can focus on the future of our Nation as our primary concern. Thank You for the strength and vitality that You provide. We commit this day and our lives to You. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader is recognized.

Mr. ALLARD. Thank you, Mr. President.

SCHEDULE

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, today the Senate will resume consideration of the tobacco legislation. There are two amendments currently pending, and it is expected that a vote on or in relation to one or both of those amendments will occur by 11 a.m. this morning.

It is hoped that following disposition of those amendments, Members will come to the floor to offer and debate remaining amendments to the tobacco legislation under short time agreements. Therefore, Members should expect

rollcall votes throughout Wednesday's session as the Senate attempts to make good progress on this important bill.

I thank my colleagues for their attention, and I yield the floor.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Massachusetts is recognized.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, it is our effort to try to divide the time between now and 11 evenly on both sides, although we are going to do that without a unanimous consent request. We would like to try to do it just as a matter of comity; and hopefully we can make that work.

I yield the floor.

NATIONAL TOBACCO POLICY AND YOUTH SMOKING REDUCTION ACT

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1415) to reform and restructure the processes by which tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed, to prevent the use of tobacco products by minors, to redress the adverse health effects of tobacco use, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Kennedy/Lautenberg amendment No. 2422 (to amendment No. 2420), to modify those provisions relating to revenues from payments made by participating tobacco companies.

Ashcroft amendment No. 2427 (to amendment No. 2422), to strike those provisions relating to consumer taxes.

Mr. WELLSTONE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. WELLSTONE. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, I ask the manager that I may have 6 minutes to speak.

AMENDMENT NO. 2422

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, when the Congress first conceived of comprehensive tobacco legislation, the primary goal was to deter youth smoking—I will say that again—the primary goal was, and is, to deter youth smoking.

We have now discovered, through millions of documents—the State of Minnesota has led the way; my State, Minnesota, has led the way—that the industry has over the years intentionally marketed to our children, intentionally targeted our children. Our children, our sons and daughters—their profits. Our children's lives for their money. This is an unacceptable trade-off.

Mr. President, do not take my words as a Senator from Minnesota as the final words on this matter. Let us just look at the tobacco companies' own documents.

An R.J. Reynolds document penned in 1976:

Evidence is now available to indicate that 14-18 year old group is an increasing segment of the smoking population. RJR-(tobacco) must soon establish a successful new brand in this market if our position in the industry is to be maintained in the long term.

Philip Morris in 1981:

Today's teenager is tomorrow's potential regular customer, and the overwhelming majority of smokers first begin to smoke while still in their teens . . . The smoking patterns of teenagers are particularly important to Philip Morris.

The 1998 report, "Taking Action to Reduce Tobacco Use," published by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, concluded—and I quote—

. . . the single most direct and reliable method for reducing consumption is to increase the price of tobacco products, thus encouraging the cessation and reducing the level of initiation of tobacco use.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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